

Asbury Theological Seminary ePLACE: preserving, learning, and creative exchange

Syllabi

eCommons

1-1-2007

CH 500 Turning Points in Church History

Meesaeng Lee Choi

Follow this and additional works at: <http://place.asburyseminary.edu/syllabi>

Recommended Citation

Choi, Meesaeng Lee, "CH 500 Turning Points in Church History" (2007). *Syllabi*. Book 2667.
<http://place.asburyseminary.edu/syllabi/2667>

This Document is brought to you for free and open access by the eCommons at ePLACE: preserving, learning, and creative exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ePLACE: preserving, learning, and creative exchange. For more information, please contact thad.horner@asburyseminary.edu.

CH 500

Turning Points in Church History

Meesaeng Lee Choi, Ph.D.

Office: AD 402

Direct Line: 859-858-2046

Home (Study): 859-272-7871

meesaeng_choi@asburyseminary.edu

Fall 2007

3 credit hour units

Class: Wednesdays 2:30-5:30 pm

Office Hours: Tuesdays 12:30-2:30 pm
(other times by appointment)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course is designed to be an introduction to **selected critical themes as turning points** in the history of the Christian Church from its origins to the present time. Within the broad sweep of the four main periods of the Church (Early, Medieval, Reformation, and Modern), students will consider key persons, dates, developments, movements, and theological concepts. Special attention is devoted to mastery of the foundations (information, resources, and methodologies) essential for further studies in church history and historical theology. Open to MA students (other than MATS) only.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students will value the theological resources of the Church, including the creeds, great writings, issues faced, and decisions made by previous generations throughout church history. In order to begin making the fulfillment of that goal possible, this course introduces students to the theological and historical heritage of the Church. By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- identify critical issues of historical study and develop strategies for relating the “data” of historical study to the questions of historiography.
- determine key dates and concepts and analyze that information in light of the students’ own faith commitment.
- explore the work of key individuals and movements and to understand their work in light of the students’ own ministry.
- explore the major developments in the history of the Church and relate them to current discussions in the Church.
- develop and formulate historical and theological constructs which reflect the students’ awareness of biblical, historical, and theological concerns.
- critique various formulations and determine their degree of conformity to biblical, theological, and historical criteria.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Noll, Mark A. *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic Books, 2000.

Olson, Roger E. *The Story of Christian Theology: Twenty Centuries of Tradition & Reform*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1999.

St. Athanasius. *On the Incarnation*. St. Vladimir’s Seminary Press, 2000.

St. Benedict. *The Rule of St. Benedict in English*, ed. Timothy Fry. Liturgical Press,

Hattaway, Paul and als. *Back to Jerusalem: Three Chinese House Church Leaders Share Their Vision to Complete the Great Commission*. Gabriel Publishing, 2003.

CH500 Course Packet (ATS bookstore)

Selected primary source and additional readings cited under each lesson (see the “Course and Reading Schedule” below) are available at CH500/Course Center.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

All work is expected to be completed **on time** as indicated in the requirements (unless prior arrangements are made); **late papers** will be applied an automatic graduated grade deduction (you will receive **grade only** without any comment).

Inclusive languages are encouraged for class discussions and **required** for all written work.

1. Class Attendance, Reading Assignment, and Participation: 17%

- If you attend all the classes, you will get one additional point in the final grading. If you miss one lecture (each session has 2 lectures), you will lose one point (up to 5 lectures). 3 “cuts” (6 lectures) mean automatic fail.
- You must complete the assigned reading from the required texts prior to each class session (see ‘the Course and Reading Schedule’).
- The Final Reading Report (use **the form** prepared) must be turned in at the last class day (Dec 5).
- See Handout 1 (“**How to Read Academic Texts Critically**”).

2. Discussion Papers and Readings for Discussion from Primary Source Reading: 38%

You are required to read the assigned primary source text and prepare a one-page discussion paper (approximately 600 words, single spaced) on each text for the class discussions.

Your paper should focus on the evidence which the text provides for understanding Christian beliefs, practices and attitudes of **its own time**.

After you use your paper during discussion session and submit it at the end of each class.

- Six Discussion Papers would be graded. (6 points x **5** = 30).
- Three Readings for Discussion: Participation score only (2 points x **4** = 8).

5 Discussion Papers (DP) and 4 Discussion Readings (DR)

DP1 (Sep 12) Perpetua, “The Martyrdom of Perpetua and Felicitas”. [CH500/Course center]

DP2 (Sep 19) Athanasius, *On the Incarnation* (St. Vladimir Seminary Press, 2000).
[book purchase]

DRa (Sep 26) Benedict, *The Rule of Benedict* (Liturgical Press). [book purchase]

DRb (Oct 3) Anselm, *Why God Became Human*. [CH500/Course center]

DP3 (Oct 24) Martin Luther, “The Babylonian Captivity of the Church (1520).”
[Course packet]

DRc (Oct 31) Philip Spener, “Pia Desideria,” *Pietists*, Classics of Western Spirituality, 31-49. [Course packet]

DP4 (Nov 7) John Wesley, “Christian Perfection,” “On Perfection.” [Course Packet]

Sermon 40 “Christian Perfection (1741),” in *The Works of John Wesley*, vol 2: Sermons II 34-70, ed. Albert C. Outler (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1985).

Sermon 76 “On Perfection (1784),” in *The Works of John Wesley*, Vol 3: Sermons III 71-114, ed. Albert C. Outler (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1986).

DRd (Nov 28) William Carey, “An Enquiry into the Obligations of Christians to Use Means for the Conversion of the Heathens”. [CH500/Course center]

DP5 (Dec 6) Paul Hattaway & als. *Back to Jerusalem: Three Chinese House Church Leaders Share Their Vision to Complete the Great Commission* [book purchase].

A Brief Guideline for discussion papers

(You can find example papers in our course center.)

- a. Write a very succinct background (who, where, when, why . . .) **in its own historical context**.

- b. Interact with the text (primary source) by highlighting several (if not a few) major points from the text.
- c. You can make some comments by interpreting and reflecting those points and/or by pointing out why and how they are significant and applicable for the theology of ministry.
- d. Make sure that you include bibliographical source information (footnotes or in-text notes) for both direct and indirect quotes in your paper.

On questions of writing style, see example papers (CH500/Course Center/Example papers) and/or Handout 2 ("Turabian Style: Sample Footnotes and Bibliographic Entries").

For more details see Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 6th ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996).

3. Two Take-Home Exams: 45 %

Mid-term Exam Due: Oct 17, 2007, 3 pm

Final Exam Due: Dec 12, 2007, 3 pm

Your take-home exams are to be answered in essay form with footnotes and bibliography.

On questions of writing style, see Example papers (CH500/Course Center/Example papers) and/or Handout 2 ("Turabian Style: Sample Footnotes and Bibliographic Entries").

For more details see Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 6th ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996).

GRADING

A letter grade will be given based on the grades of work done.

A (95-100), **A-** (90-94),

B+ (87-89), **B** (83-86), **B-** (80-82),

C+ (77-79), **C** (73-76), **C-** (70-72),

D (60-69), **F** (less than 60).

From the *2006 Catalog*:

- A Exceptional work: surpassing or outstanding achievement of course objectives
- B Good work: strong, significant achievement of course objectives
- C Acceptable work: basic, essential achievement of course objectives
- D Marginal work: inadequate, minimal achievement of course objectives
- F Unacceptable work: failure to achieve course objectives.

COURSE AND READING SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Reading Assignments		Primary Source Reading For Discussion Paper
		<i>Turning Points</i>	<i>The Story</i>	
S1 (Sep 5) Introduction and Overview	Introduction			
	Why Study Turning Points in Church History?	11-22	11-23	
S2 (Sep 12) After the Fall of Jerusalem (70)	Christianity's Conflict with State & Culture: Persecution, Martyrdom & Apologetics (Jewish, Hellenistic, & Latin Christianity)	25-46	25-67	Discussion Paper 1 "The Martyrdom of Perpetua and Felicitas" [CH500/course center].
	Heresy and Church's Response: Canon, Apostolic, and Creeds		68-135	
S3 (Sep 19) Church & Empire: From Nicaea to Chalcedon (325-451) Video, 1	The Trinitarian Controversy: The Council of Nicaea (325) and the Council of Constantinople (381)	47-64	137-96	Discussion Paper 2 Athanasius, <i>The Incarnation of the Word of God</i>. [book purchase]
	The Christological Controversy: The Council of Chalcedon (451) and Afterwards	65-82	197-249	
S4 (Sep 26) Monastic Challenge (530) Video, 2a	Monastic Rescue and <i>The Rule of Benedict</i> (530)	83-105	251-77	Reading for Discussion Benedict, <i>The Rule of Benedict</i> [book purchase]
	Later Monastic Developments: Cluniac (10th), Cistercian (12th), and the Mendicants (13th)			
S5 (Oct 3) Christendom (800) and Scholasticism The Great Schism (1054) Video, 2b	The Culmination of Christendom (800) The Rise of Universities and Scholasticism	107-27	311-47	Reading for Discussion Anselm, <i>Why God Became Human</i> [CH500/course center].
	The Great Schism Between East & West (1054): Eastern Orthodoxy & Roman Catholicism	129-50	278-310	
S6 (Oct 10) Age of Reform (1250-1550)	Conciliar Movement Mysticism and <i>Devotio Moderna</i> Independent Reform Movement		348-67	
	Nominalist Renewal & <i>Via Moderna</i> Revival of Classical Learning: Renaissance & Humanism			
Oct 17	Mid-term Exam Due (3pm)			
S7 (Oct 24) The Beginnings of Protestantism (1521) Video, 3	Luther's Theology of the Cross	151-74	369-96	
	Zwingli, Calvin, & the Anabaptists		397-428	Discussion Paper 3 "The Babylonian Captivity of the Church (1520)." [course packet]

Date	Topic	Reading Assignments		Primary & Additional Sources
		<i>Turning Points</i>	<i>The Story</i>	
S8 (Oct 31) English (1534) & Catholic Reformation (1540) Video, 4a	The English Act of Supremacy (1534) Catholic/Counter Reformation (1540)	175-220	429-49	
	The Rise of Pietism (1675)	221-44	451-517	Reading for Discussion Philip Spener, “Pia Desideria,” Pietists, CWS, 31-49. [course packet]
S9 (Nov 7) The Wesleys’ Revival (1738) Holiness Revival Video, 4b	The Wesleys’ Evangelical Revival (1738) The First Great Awakening (1735)	"	"	Discussion Paper 4 John Wesley, Sermon 40 “Christian Perfection” and Sermon 76 “On Perfection.” [course packet]
	The 2nd & 3rd Great Awakenings Holiness Revival/Evangelicalism			
S10 (Nov 14) The French Revolution (1789) Response to Modernity (1901) Video, 5	The French Revolution (1789) and the Demise of Christendom Deism and Enlightenment	245-68	518-32	
	Liberals (Modernism) & Conservatives (Fundamentalism) to Modernity (1901)		533-69	
S11 (Nov 28) World Missionary Conference (1910) & Global Christianity Video, 6	Modern Missionary Movement (1792) World Missionary Conference (1910): Evangelical vs. Ecumenical		570-89	Reading for Discussion William Carey, “An Enquiry” [CH500/course center].
	Karl Barth (1918) & Neo-Orthodoxy	269-94	590-613	
S12 (Dec 5) Pentecostal, Charismatic, and New Apostolic	Pentecostalism (1906) Charismatic Movement (1960) New Apostolic			Discussion Paper 5 Paul Hattaway, Brother Yun, and als., <i>Back to Jerusalem</i> [book purchase]
	Further Turning Points of the 20th Century: Bible Translation; Women; Vatican II; Survival under Communism; Southern Christianity	295-316	"	
Dec 12	Final Exam Due (3pm)			